NHS
East Sussex Healthcare
NHS Trust

FOI REF: 25/364

30th July 2025

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

I would like to make an FOI request to obtain the following information for the time period of 2023-2025:

1. **The total numbers of Emergency general surgery operations performed between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025. Broken down by: Open, laparoscopic and robotic. For robotic surgeries please can this be further broken down into the type of robot in use for each operation (e.g. include Da Vinci, Versius, Freehand).**

    Please see the attached document - 'FOI 25-364 - Response' for the total numbers of emergency general surgery operations, for the period requested.

    Please note that East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust has only carried out 1 emergency robotic surgery; the Trust does not generally perform robotic emergency operations.

2. **Type and numbers of robot available in your trust and used in emergency general surgery cases (Examples include Da Vinci, Versius, Freehand, Soloassist, Microhand S, AESOP, Zeus).**

    1 x Da Vinci X installed March 2022 in Eastbourne District General Hospital.
    1 x Da Vinci XI installed March 2024 in Conquest Hospital.

    Please note that the Da Vinci's are not used for emergency general surgery.

3. **The total numbers of Emergency general surgery operations performed between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025 occurring during out of hours (weekends, nights)**

Please see the attached document - 'FOI 25-364 - Response' for the total number of emergency general surgery operations, occurring during out of hours, for the period requested.

4. **Number of robotic general surgery cases (both emergency and elective) performed between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025.**

Please see the attached document - 'FOI 25-364 - Response' for the total number of robotic general surgery cases, for the period requested.

Please note that East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust has only carried out 1 emergency robotic surgery, as the Trust does not generally perform robotic emergency operations.

5. **Number the following operations performed between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025. Broken down by: Open, laparoscopic and robotic (with robotic surgeries further broken down into type of robot used if applicable)**

   1. **cholecystectomies**
   2. **laparotomies**
   3. **Laparoscopies**
   4. **appendectomies**
   5. **hernia repairs**
   6. **Hartmann's procedures**
   7. **Adhesiolysis**
   8. **Small bowel resection**

Please see the attached document - 'FOI 25-364 - Response' for the total number of operations, broken down as requested.

6. **Mean length of stay of patients who have undergone the following performed between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025. Broken down by: Open, laparoscopic and robotic.**

   1. **cholecystectomies**
   2. **laparotomies**
   3. **Laparoscopies**
   4. **appendectomies**
   5. **hernia repairs**
   6. **Hartmann's procedures**
   7. **Adhesiolysis**
   8. **Small bowel resection**

Please see the attached document - 'FOI 25-364 - Response' for the mean length of stay of, broken down as requested.

7. **The number and type of complications that occurred in robotic general surgery cases between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025. Including but not limited to conversions to another type of surgery, device-related complications, injury to surrounding structures or tissue, serums, infection, leakage, hernias, mortality.**

There have been 2 reported cases of complications during robotic general survery, details as follows:

2 x Complications Clavien grade IIIb, i.e. a complication that required an intervention under General Anaesthetic:

- Port site hernia
- Revision of colostomy

8. **Number of staff trained to assist with robotic cases.**

We have 6 registrars assisting currently.

9. **The average (Over 4 weeks) number of staff trained to assist in robotic surgery available out of hours (weekends/nights).**

Not applicable as we do not perform robotic surgery out of hours.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire   SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net

FOI - 25-364 - Emergency Robotic Surgery

Question

1.   **The total numbers of Emergency general surgery operations performed between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025. Broken down by: Open, laparoscopic and robotic. For robotic surgeries please can this be further broken down into the type of robot in use for each operation (e.g. include Da Vinci, Versius, Freehand).**

Admission Method - **Emergency** - Specialty - **General Surgery**

Type	Year		Total
	2023	2024	
Laparoscopic	347	373	720
Open	2793	3112	5905
Robotic		1	1
Total	3140	3486	6626

3.   **The total numbers of Emergency general surgery operations performed between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025 occurring during out of hours (weekends, nights)**

Admission Method - **Emergency** - Specialty - **General Surgery**

Type	Year				Total
	2023		2024		
	Saturday	Sunday	Saturday	Sunday	
Laparoscopic	45	42	53	49	189
Open	363	345	401	380	1489
Total	**408**	**387**	**454**	**429**	**1678**

4. **Number of robotic general surgery cases (both emergency and elective) performed between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025.**

Admission Method	Type	Year		Total
		2023	2024	
Day Case	Laparoscopic	317	308	625
	Open	7242	4902	12144
	Robotic		21	21
Ordinary	Laparoscopic	246	216	462
	Open	306	299	605
	Robotic		40	40
Emergency	Laparoscopic	347	373	720
	Open	2793	3112	5905
	Robotic		1	1
Total	Laparoscopic	910	897	1807
	Open	10341	8313	18654
	Robotic	0	62	62

5. **Number the following operations performed between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025. Broken down by: Open, laparoscopic and robotic (with robotic surgeries further broken down into type of robot used if applicable)**

Procedure	Type	2023			2024			Total		
		DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer
1. cholecystectomies (OPCS4 Code - J18)	Laparoscopic	242	73	12	244	82	24	486	155	36
	Open		2	1		7		0	9	1
	Robotic				15			15	0	0
Total		242	75	13	259	89	24	501	164	37

Procedure	Type	2023			2024			Total		
		DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer
2. laparotomies (OPCS4 Code - T30)	Laparoscopic							0	0	0
	Open	1	1	4		2	5	1	3	9
	Robotic							0	0	0
Total		1	1	4	0	2	5	1	3	9

Procedure	Type	2023			2024			Total		
		DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer
3. Laparoscopies (OPCS4 Code T34)	Laparoscopic			1				0	0	1
	Open	5	1	3	9	3	3	14	4	6
	Robotic							0	0	0
Total		5	1	4	9	3	3	14	4	7

Procedure	Type	2023			2024			Total		
		DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer
4. appendectomies (OPCS 4 Code - H01, H02)	Laparoscopic	6	8	289	5	5	297	11	13	586
	Open		4	25		4	16	0	8	41
	Robotic							0	0	0
Total		6	12	314	5	9	313	11	21	627

		2023			2024			Total		
Procedure	Type	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer
5. hernia repairs (OPCS4 Code - H01,H02)	Laparoscopic	78	22	8	65	18	9	143	40	17
	Open	338	91	88	388	96	99	726	187	187
	Robotic				6	6		6	6	0
Total		416	113	96	459	120	108	875	233	204

		2023			2024			Total		
Procedure	Type	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer
6. Hartmann's procedures (OPCS4 Code - H33.5)	Laparoscopic		7	1		2		0	9	1
	Open		6	21		4	11	0	10	32
	Robotic					2		0	2	0
Total		0	13	22	0	8	11	0	21	33

		2023			2024			Total		
Procedure	Type	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer
7. Adhesiolysis (opcs4 Codes - T41.3, T41.5, T423)	Laparoscopic	68	52	30	75	52	42	143	104	72
	Open	4	37	60	3	48	75	7	85	135
	Robotic				4			4	0	0
Total		72	89	90	82	100	117	154	189	207

		2023			2024			Total		
Procedure	Type	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer	DC	Ord	Emer
8. Small bowel resection (OPCS4 Code - G69)	Laparoscopic		2	1		1	3	0	3	4
	Open		2	30		6	31	0	8	61
	Robotic							0	0	0
Total		0	4	31	0	7	34	0	11	65

6. Mean length of stay of patients who have undergone the following performed between January 1st 2023-January 1st 2025. Broken down by: Open, laparoscopic and robotic.

Procedure	Type	2023		2024	
		Ord	Emer	Ord	Emer
1. cholecystectomies (OPCS4 Code - J18)	Laparoscopic	2.19	5.04	1.60	2.83
	Open	3.85	10.96	3.78	
	Robotic				

Procedure	Type	2023		2024	
		Ord	Emer	Ord	Emer
2. laparotomies (OPCS4 Code - T30)	Laparoscopic				
	Open	1.00	4.00	2.00	5.00
	Robotic				

Procedure	Type	2023		2024	
		Ord	Emer	Ord	Emer
3. Laparoscopies (OPCS4 Code T34)	Laparoscopic		2.29		
	Open	1.31	41.53	1.09	9.73
	Robotic				

Procedure	Type	2023		2024	
		Ord	Emer	Ord	Emer
4. appendectomies (OPCS 4 Code - H01, H02)	Laparoscopic	4.30	2.27	2.28	2.54
	Open	3.48	6.28	4.62	4.56
	Robotic				

Procedure	Type	2023		2024	
		Ord	Emer	Ord	Emer
5. hernia repairs (OPCS4 Code - H01,H02)	Laparoscopic	3.77	3.69	3.59	4.39
	Open	2.90	6.40	2,51	7.40
	Robotic			1.07	

Procedure	Type	2023		2024	
		Ord	Emer	Ord	Emer
6. Hartmann's procedures (OPCS4 Code - H33.5)	Laparoscopic	12.55	7.16	8.45	
	Open	13.89	22.06	12.17	24.16
	Robotic			5.29	

Procedure	Type	2023		2024	
		Ord	Emer	Ord	Emer
7. Adhesiolysis (opcs4 Codes - T41.3, T41.5, T423)	Laparoscopic	4.23	8.63	4.41	6.21
	Open	9.52	13.97	8.78	17.84
	Robotic				

Procedure	Type	2023		2024	
		Ord	Emer	Ord	Emer
8. Small bowel resection (OPCS4 Code - G69)	Laparoscopic	20.67	61.38	5.42	6.41
	Open	13.91	16.80	17.70	21.11
	Robotic				